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## REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS

scribed group live there. There is little difference between conditions in London—unregulated, and Berlin—regulated.

The attempt to control the spread of disease by medical supervision is pictured as little less than a farce. In Berlin the laboratory is well equipped; in Paris “the establishment does not yet boast a microscope.” The time between examinations varies from once a week to once a month, and the time spent on each patient probably does not average a minute. Hospital accommodations are inadequate, and St. Lazare at Paris is an awful dungeon. In view of the small number inscribed, there is really no regular inspection. Moreover, so superficial the examination, so brief the detention even when disease is discovered, it is clear that the whole system has broken down. There is coming a marked opposition to regulation, and in France a special commission recommended its abolition. One factor delaying this reform is the desire of the “moral police” to keep in touch with the underworld. Picturing the police systems as a whole in favorable colors, Mr. Flexner feels that “moral police” are badly demoralized.

“Abolition does not mean *laissez-faire*; in all the countries that I visited, abolition of regulation is accompanied by definite statutory authority to deal adequately with prostitution in so far as it imperils order and decency.” Copenhagen, Christiana are backed by a higher public opinion than Berlin, and actual conditions, Mr. Flexner thinks, are better. Abolition places all prostitutes on the same basis. In regard to the attitude of the people, Mr. Flexner thinks the Scandinavians are far ahead of England, and the former are definitely tackling the evil. It is said that a larger percentage of the diseased is now reached than formerly. “Repression, in order to realize its full possibilities, requires an abundance of institutional facilities, such as now nowhere exist.”

The lesson for America, the author states, is repression—not regulation.

The last fifty pages are given to digests of the regulations of various cities.

The author is to be complimented upon the clearness of his style, the abundance of evidence and pertinency of his illustrations. He has given us an exceedingly valuable study, and has handled his material in such masterly fashion that only a prude can take offense. It is greatly to be hoped that Americans will not overlook this volume.

University of Pennsylvania.

CARL KELSEY.

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“THE ENGLISH CONVICT.” A statistical study. By *Charles Goring, M. D., B. Sc.*, Deputy Medical Officer, H. M. Prison, Parkhurst. His Majesty’s Stationery Office, London, 1913. Pp. 440; nine shillings.

In this blue book, Dr. Goring records the results of a very careful statistical investigation into the characteristics of the English criminal. The term “criminal” refers here to the convicted criminal, and not to those with equal anti-social tendencies, but sufficiently successful to

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avoid conviction for their misdemeanors. The subjects investigated consist therefore of individuals who have been convicted of committing breaches of the law, sufficiently serious to be dealt with by imprisonment; and the author deals with this material in a detailed, objective manner. Again and again he emphasizes the importance of the statistical method, and shows how neglect of careful statistical work is largely responsible for the prominence of certain popular theories. The criminal has been held by some to be an atavistic anomaly; according to others he is morally insane; a third group would consider the criminal a rather poorly evolved individual, who, like a savage in a strange environment is insane relatively to the standards of that environment; the fourth group look upon the anomalies of the criminal as indicating his belonging to the large group of the generally degenerate. The author is extremely severe in his criticism of the theories of Lombroso, and emphasizes the impressionistic origin of the extremely sweeping generalizations of his school. The present investigation is divided into two parts. The first consists of an inquiry into the alleged existence of a "Physical Criminal Type;" the second deals with seven separate topics, all of which, however, are connected. The topic dealt with in the various chapters of the second part are:

Chapter I, The Physique of Criminals.  
Chapter II, Age as an Etiological Factor in Crime.  
Chapter III, The Criminal's Vital Statistics.  
Chapter IV, The Mental Differentiation of the Criminal.  
Chapter V, The Influence of the "Force of Circumstances" on the Genesis of Crime.

Chapter VI, The Fertility of Criminals.  
Chapter VII, The Influence of Heredity on the Genesis of Crime.  
In part I, dealing with an inquiry into the alleged existence of a "Physical Criminal Type," the author discusses the general statistical methods involved. He presents in detail the results of his investigations, and he comes to the following conclusions: No evidence has confirmed the existence of a "Physical Criminal Type," such as Lombroso and his disciples have described. Our data do show that physical differences exist between different kinds of criminals precisely as they exist between different kinds of law-abiding people. But when allowance is made for a certain range of probable variation, and when they are reduced to a common standard of age, stature, intelligence, and class, etc., these differences tend entirely to disappear. \* \* \* In fact, both with regard to measurements and the presence of physical anomalies in criminals, our statistics present a startling conformity with similar statistics of the law-abiding classes. *There is no such thing as a "physical criminal type."*

In the first chapter of the second part, the author still deals with the physique of criminals, and he concludes that all English criminals, with the exception of those technically convicted of fraud, are markedly differentiated from the general population in stature and body weight; in addition, offenders convicted of violence to the person are characterized by an average degree of strength and of constitutional soundness

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considerably above the average of other criminals, and of the law-abiding community; finally, thieves and burglars (who constitute, it must be borne in mind, ninety per cent of all criminals), and also incendiaries as well, being inferior in stature and weight, are also relatively to other criminals and the population at large, puny in their general bodily habit. *These are the sole facts at the basis of criminal anthropology;* they are the only elements of truth out of which have been constructed the elaborate, extravagant, and ludicrously uncritical criminological doctrines of the great protagonist of the "criminal type" theory.

As to the mental differentiation of the criminal, the author took up the study of the differentiation of criminals in mental characters. He studied their temperament, temper, facility (or pliability), conduct, suicidal tendency, insane diathesis. His conclusion is that the one vital mental constitutional factor in the etiology of crime is defective intelligence. As to the influence of the "force of circumstances," the author disagrees absolutely with the criminal sociologists, who say that the source of crime must be sought in the adverse social and economic environment of the malefactor. His own conclusion is that "relatively to its origin in the constitution of the malefactor, and especially in his mentally defective constitution, crime is only to a trifling extent (if to any) the product of social inequalities, of adverse environment, or of other manifestations of what may be comprehensively termed the "force of circumstances." The criminal is unquestionably a product of the most prolific stocks in the general community, and therefore it is false to hold that criminals share in the relative sterility of all degenerate stocks. As to the role of heredity, the criminal diathesis revealed by the tendency to be convicted and to be imprisoned for crime is influenced by the force of heredity in much the same way, and to much the same extent as are physical and mental qualities and conditions in man.

The author is to be congratulated upon the successful completion of an arduous research, the results of which he has presented with remarkable lucidity, a quality which is, however, not gained at the expense of accuracy. The work is an extremely valuable contribution to our knowledge of the actual facts concerning the convicted criminal.

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MACFIE CAMPBELL.

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KINDERAUSSAGEN IN EINEM SITTLICHKEITSPROZESS. By *Karl Marbe.*  
*Fortschritte der Psychologie und ihrer Anwendungen*, Vol. 1, 1913,  
Pp. 375-396.

Professor Marbe, who is now in charge of the psychological laboratory at Würzburg, was called upon to give expert testimony in aid of the defense of a school teacher accused of immoral sexual relations with seven of his girl pupils. The accusations against the teacher were due partly to the fact that he was accustomed to indulge in certain familiarities with his pupils that were unwise, though neither criminal nor immoral (caresses, tickling, etc.) and that these familiarities led to rumors which were speedily exaggerated and then used by some of his enemies in